

Referring to FIG. 4B, upon loading of the bag, the first wall 12 is grasped and pulled away from the bag pack and rack to remove the loaded bag from the rack. As the bag continues to be pulled toward the user, the support cut 26' for the second, back wall 13, still engaged to the tab support member T, ruptures 21' between the support cut and generally laterally disposed cut 23' causing the higher, thereby completing the dispensing operation.

FIG. 4C illustrates the present invention utilizing the self-opening thermoplastic bag teachings of U.S. Pat. Ser. Nos. 08/717,083 to Nguyen, as well as U.S. Pat. No. 5,561,967 issued Oct. 08, 1994, and U.S. Pat. No. 5,363,965 issued Nov. 15, 1994, also to Nguyen, the specifications and teachings of all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

As shown, the user U pulls the first, front wall 99 of the lead bag 101 from the rack R. In doing so, the handle apertures 102, 103 of the front wall ride along the handle support rods II, H' away from the bag pack 104, however, the punches 105, 106, 107, 108, 109 formed in the second, rear bag wall 110 cause the handle area 111 and raised area 112 of the rear wall of the lead bag to adhere to the front wall 113 of the next bag N sufficient hold the second, rear bag wall to remain adjacent to the pack 104, allowing the front wall 99 of the lead bag to be held in an open position for loading goods therein.

The punches permeate the walls of the bags such that the rear wall of the next bag N remains with the pack, and supported by tab support member T. Once loaded, as the lead bag is removed from the rack, the second, rear wall 110 of the of said lead bag engages via the punches 105, 106, 107, 108 the front wall of the next bag, applying pulling force to same to rupture dispense cuts 114, 115 into dispense cuts, respectively, freeing said walls from the tab support member T. As the lead bag is removed, the front wall 113 of the next bag N to be dispensed is pulled into an open position on the rack, separating from the rear wall of the lead bag, leaving the next bag in open position on the rack, ready to be loaded.

The invention embodiments herein described are done so in detail for exemplary purposes only, and may be subject to

many different variations in design, structure, application and operation methodology. Thus, the detailed disclosures therein should be interpreted in an illustrative, exemplary manner, and not in a limited sense.

What is claimed is:

1. A thermoplastic bag having first and second sides and bottom and top ends, said bag comprising:

a bag mouth having opposing ends and a medial area, said medial area of said bag mouth being raised above said opposing ends of said bag mouth, forming a raised medial area having a top edge, said raised medial area further having formed therein a generally horizontally situated support cut having first and second ends, said raised medial area further having a dispense cut situated in spaced, generally lateral fashion relative to said support cut;

first and second handles emanating from said bag mouth, each of said handles having an upper end, a lower end, an inner side edge, and a medial area therebetween; said first and second handles having first and second punch stamps formed therein, respectively;

said first and second punch stamps comprising first and second, generally linear cut sections formed in said bag, said first and second linear cut sections penetrating said handles.

2. The thermoplastic bag of claim 1, wherein said dispense cut has first and second ends, said first end situated at said top edge of said raised medial area, said second end situated in spaced fashion above said dispense cut.

3. The thermoplastic bag of claim 2, wherein said thermoplastic bag has a longitudinal axis, and said dispense cut formed in said raised medial area is generally aligned with said longitudinal axis of said thermoplastic bag.

4. The thermoplastic bag of claim 3, wherein said second end of said dispense cut formed in said raised medial area is spaced between 0.05–0.33 inches above said support cut formed in said raised medial area.

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